

THE ALBERTA MUNICIPAL Counsellor

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October-November, 1966

UAM ASSEMBLY REVIEWS RESOURCES

DELEGATES CONSIDER 80 RESOLUTIONS

RED DEER HOST CITY

The 60th Annual Convention of the Union of Alberta Municipalities was held in Red Deer, November 1-4. It was their largest meeting to date with exactly 500 registrations including delegates, guests and newsmen. There were over 400 accredited delegates.

This was the third occasion Red Deer had hosted the Convention. Sessions were held in the Capri Hotel.

Alderman Mark Tennant of Calgary was elected President at the closing business session on Friday, November fourth. First Vice-President elected was Mayor George Repka of Grande Prairie and Mayor Dennis Burt of Cardston now serves as second Vice-President. Ernie Newman is Executive Secretary.

Opening Address by Lieutenant Governor MacEwan:

Lieutenant Governor J.W. Grant MacEwan gave the delegates their opening address. Recently returned from a trip to Rome, he introduced the thought that today's trend of ever-rising costs for more and bigger government may be similar to the experience in government prior to the fall of Rome. He suggested the delegates should be mindful of the mistakes of Rome when looking for ways to cut the cost and size of government.

Review of Resources:

Many speakers and panelists dealt with subjects in keeping with the convention theme, "Review of Resources". Prominent subjects were Water Resources, (Mr. R.E. Bailey, Provincial Director); Oil and Gas, (Dr. G.W. Govier, Chairman, Oil and Gas Conservation Board); Revenue from taxes at three levels of government (Professor Walter Gainer, U. of A.); Human Resources and Preventive Welfare (Mr. D.W. Rogers, Deputy Minister, Public Welfare) and most significantly, Resources of the U.A.M. (Mayor Frank Sherring of Lethbridge).

Proposed Consolidation of Municipal Acts:

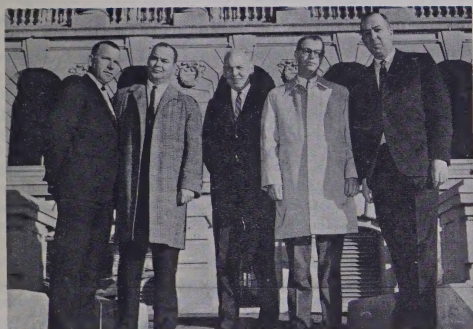
Featured speaker at the noon luncheon and closing session Friday, November fourth was the Hon. A.J. Hooke, Minister of Municipal Affairs. The Hon. A.J. Hooke spoke on the proposed consolidation of municipal legislation. He introduced Mr. Stan Ross, Q.C. of Edmonton and Mr. W.D. Isbister, Assistant Chief Municipal Inspector, the two members of the Committee that had been charged with the task of reviewing the Municipal Acts and bringing in recommendations for their consolidation.

He explained that uniformity of powers as between municipalities, large and small, and protection of the property and civil rights of the individual were two of the basic criteria these men had been instructed to maintain in bringing in their recommendations for consolidation.

Delegates and guests heard him list the recommendations made by the Committee. He emphasized that the Committee's recommendations were not yet government policy and that they were being publicized at this time through the press and at (to page 3)

A.A. of M.D.'s and COUNTIES
Convention in Calgary, November 15 - 18, 1966

The December issue of the COUNSELLOR will carry a full account of the Association of M.D.'s and Counties Convention held at the Palliser Hotel in Calgary, November 15 - 18.



Pictured this month on the steps of the Legislative Building in Edmonton are the Assessment Research officers of the Assessment Commissioner's staff. (Left to right): Mel Threadgold, Jerry Basler, Al Williams, Robert Patry, Supervisor and Norm Jensen.

Duties of the Assessment Research staff include such matters as (1) the preparation, compilation, editing and maintenance of Provincial assessment manuals (2) generally assisting property tax assessors and interpreting their assessment manuals for practical application and (3) assessment research work for the Assessment Equalization Board.

A new assessment manual based upon up-dated costs is scheduled for implementation later in 1967. The COUNSELLOR will carry an introductory article when this manual is published. ●

Summer Villages Re-elected ...

C.H. CLARK FOR NINTH TERM

The eighth annual meeting of the Association of Summer Villages was held in Edmonton on Monday, October 24th, 1966. There are 26 summer villages located on twelve lakes in Alberta.

Mayor C.H. Clark of Seba Beach was re-elected President for a ninth term. A new constitution was adopted and Mr. C.D. Denney's position changed from Secretary-Treasurer to Executive Director.

The meeting heard reports from committees dealing with sport and commercial fishing and control of recreational waters. Mr. T. Roach of the Corrections Branch, Department of the Attorney General, announced at the meeting that arrangements are being made to have a RCMP detachment deployed for summer weekend patrols in the summer villages. In addition, he said, his Department may consider renting a trailer and have a RCMP take up summer residence for full-time duty in some of the larger summer villages. This has been done at Gull Lake in past years.

Resolutions covered such subjects as tenure of office, who may vote, consolidation of all summer village provisions in The Town and Village Act, assessment of uncompleted buildings, first council meeting, natural gas as a local improvement and the purchase of fire and police equipment without by-law when less than \$500.00. ●

THE SECOND PAGE . . .

CANADIAN

QUOTES and PHRASES



"No Canadian is ever going to get a lump in his throat or a tear in his eye when he looks at the Trans Canada Highway or a big new office building. The cultural things are the things that are going to make for our national greatness".

Dr. Frank MacKinnon, President
Prince of Wales University,
at the Women's Canadian Club
in Edmonton, November 9, 1966.

ETIQUETTE FOR CANADA'S FLAG

The national flag of Canada, adopted by Parliament, and proclaimed by Her Majesty the Queen on February 15, 1965 was inaugurated in ceremonies throughout Canada and official Canadian posts abroad. It is described as a red flag of the proportions two by length and one by width, containing in its centre a white square the width of the flag, with a singlered maple leaf centered within the square.

There are no official statutes governing the use of the national flag. A private citizen may fly any flag, including the red maple leaf, at any time and place and is expected only to observe good taste and common sense. Most people, however, are anxious to follow the generally established customs for official use of the flag.

When the flag is raised it is customary, for civilians, to stand and males to remove their hats. Officially, the flag is flown only in daylight hours with the exception of ships at sea. It is raised at sunrise and lowered at sunset.

The national flag should always be given the place of honour. When it is to be flown along with a second flag, the maple leaf flag occupies the staff on the left, from the viewpoint of the audience. The two flags should be flown side by side, at the same height and should also be of the same size.

The national flag is a symbol of Canada which identifies our country throughout the world. It should, therefore, be treated with the respect that such a symbol warrants. No flag is flown above the national flag. It is used as a drape only on a casket of the dead or in the unveiling of a monument. It is not used as a table covering and it is never used for advertising purposes.

When the flag becomes tattered and worn, it should be disposed of by burning quietly, without ceremony. It is not considered an act of disrespect to burn an unserviceable flag.

THE CHANGING SCENE

o COUNTIES

Barrehead Secretary-Treasurer A. Charles
o MUNICIPAL DISTRICTS

Spirit River Secretary-Treasurer W.J. Elliott
o TOWNS

Black Diamond Mayor G.C. Hanna
Brooks Mayor W.L. Poxon
Calmar Mayor F.W. Madin
Cold Lake Mayor C. Skinty
Daysland Mayor W. Stevens
Grande Cache Secretary-Treasurer R.W. Thompson
Hanna Mayor Dr. J.M. Kaster
Hardisty Mayor B.E. Rempel
Irvine Mayor G.J. Schlaht
Magrath Mayor S.A. Jensen
Morinville Mayor H. Ramsay
Okotoks Secretary-Treasurer J.S. Vang
Picture Butte Mayor H. Watson

Provost Mayor C.E. Fulmore
Rainbow Lake Secretary-Treasurer Mrs. A. Desilets
Rimby Mayor F.J. Lebolders
Rocky Mountain House Mayor Mrs. W. Hunley
Sedgewick Mayor H.S. Bailey
Stavely Mayor Shirley O. Johnson
Strathmore Mayor R.A. Coldwell
Swan Hills Secretary-Treasurer D.W. Prowse
Sylvan Lake Mayor J. Innes
Valleyview Mayor R.J. Metcalf
Whitecourt Chairman,
Bd. of Administrators A.J. Miller

o VILLAGES

Acme Mayor G.G. Berreth
Amisk Mayor H.K. Solbak
Bentley Mayor T.L. Gray
Betula Beach (S.V.) Mayor P.A. Neil
9317-169 Street, Edmonton
Bonnyville Beach (S.V.) Mayor Mrs. M. Tercier, Bonnyville
Bowden Mayor R. Greig
Boyle Mayor J. Nayowski
Breton Mayor P. Seal
Secretary-Treasurer Mrs. G. Ladouceur
Castle Island (S.V.) Mayor J.F. Greenan
9919-106 Street, Edmonton
Cluny Mayor C. Beaudin
Donnelly Mayor J. Daucette
Secretary-Treasurer R.R. Bouchard
Edgerton Mayor C. Fenton
Ferintosh Mayor R.A. Edinga
Frank Mayor J. Kerr
Gadsby Mayor J. Craig
Galadiah Mayor W.R. Washburn
Grassy Lake Mayor J.R. Ell
Hay Lakes Mayor G. Schultz
Hines Creek Mayor E. Low
Secretary-Treasurer Mrs. F. Frostad
Holden Mayor L. Olson
Hugenden Mayor G. Klasson
Hussar Secretary-Treasurer J.A. Paterson
Itaska Beach (S.V.) Mayor J.L. Schlosser
8923-Sask. Dr., Edmonton
Kinuso Secretary-Treasurer Mrs. D.L. Doerksen
Kitscoty Mayor J.D. McLean
Longview Mayor C.W. Doughty
Myrnam Secretary-Treasurer B. Milnyk
New Norway Mayor H. Fredrickson
New Sarepta Mayor M.H. Tremper
Nobleford Mayor N. Kristofferson
Rochon Sands (S.V.) Mayor Mrs. V. Brennan, Stettler
Ross Haven (S.V.) Mayor L. Anfindsen
10904-80 Ave., Edmonton
Rumsey Mayor D. Shepherd
Sandy Beach (S.V.) Mayor R. Yeudall
11515-130 Ave., Edmonton
Sangudo Secretary-Treasurer Mrs. Vera E. Holt
Silver Beach (S.V.) Mayor J.G. Smith, Mulhurst
Spruce Grove Mayor J. Huber
Standard Mayor T. Jensen
Stirling Mayor J.E. Spackman
Sunset Point Mayor H. Patterson
Alberta Beach P.O.
Tilley Mayor T. Smith
Val Quentin (S.V.) Mayor B. Finley
11739-122 Street, Edmonton
Wanham Mayor A.L. Leriger
Warburg Mayor M. Lemermeyer
West Cove (S.V.) Mayor A. Woronuk
57 Westbrook Dr., Edmonton
Wildwood Mayor H. Shenfield
Willington Mayor C. Ethier

THE ALBERTA MUNICIPAL COUNSELLOR
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Department of Municipal Affairs
Edmonton, Alberta

meetings such as this in order to evoke discussion and raise informed criticism. He told delegates of the special role the Provincial-Municipal Advisory Committee had played and will continue to play in the study and consideration of the recommendations brought out by Mr. Ross and Mr. Isbister. Messrs. Ross and Isbister had made their first report to the P.M.A.C. in June and since then a special meeting of the P.M.A.C. was held to discuss their proposals with the executive officers of the two municipal associations. The P.M.A.C. now has two new U.A.M. members. He foresaw the P.M.A.C. with its new members again meeting with Mr. Ross and Mr. Isbister and Association Executives to continue an examination of the proposals before finally making its own recommendations on the subject.

P.M.A.C. and A.H.U.R.C.

The convention heard Ross Ellis of High River give a report of the work of the two U.A.M. representatives on the Provincial-Municipal Advisory Committee and the Alberta Housing and Urban Renewal Committee. Mr. Ellis had served on both Committees since their inception, - the P.M.A.C. from 1959, - the A.H.U.R.C. from January, 1965. Mr. Newman had served from January, 1965. As both he and Mr. Newman had now left municipal government service it was necessary for the new executive to nominate replacements, he said. He explained that due to turnover in elected representatives, he had served the U.A.M. alone on these Committees on many occasions. He therefore recommended that the U.A.M. ask the Provincial Government to consider naming a third representative to both Committees to act as an alternate member should one of the regular members be unable to sit or continue to serve.

He also recommended that separate representatives be named to the P.M.A.C. and A.H.U.R.C. The work in each Committee had now developed to an extent that it was impractical for one man to perform adequately on both Committees, he said.

Land-Bank Proposals Under Study:

The Hon. Gordon Taylor told the convention that the provincial government now had under study several proposals for setting up an Authority to administer money for the purchase of land and improvements to be held for the right of way of future and freeways in municipalities. The division of responsibilities and administration between the province and the municipalities was not yet clear in these studies. This was the so-called "land-bank" proposal, he said.

Membership Dues Increased:

Members voted unanimously for an increase in their Association Membership dues. Ernie Newman announced the provincial grant to their organization had been increased from \$2,000 in 1964 to \$10,000 in 1966.

D.M.A. Officials Attended:

Members of the Department of Municipal Affairs were in attendance at an Information Room throughout the period of the Convention. Greetings From Other Associations:

Speakers with greetings from fraternal organizations were Mayor J. D. Jackson of Meadow Lake for the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association, Mayor George Haddad of Cranbrook for the Union of B. C. Municipalities, Reeve C. L. Doan of Red Deer for the Alberta Association of M. D.'s and Counties and Mayor Frank Sherring of Lethbridge for the Canadian Federation of Mayors and Municipalities.

The Ladies Had a Program:

Lady guests of delegates were treated to an active and interesting program. Included were tours of the Red Deer Vocational School, the Deer-Home Institute, the Dr. Richard Parsons Auxiliary Hospital and the Recreation Centre. They saw handicrafts on sale, occupational therapy and an Art and Rug display.

Six Life Memberships Awarded:

Six men were honoured with awards of life membership in the organization:

R.	(Ross)	L. Ellis,	High River
Hon. A.	(Alfred)	J. Hooke,	Municipal Affairs
A. T.	(Tommy)	Legge,	Medicine Hat
R.	(Ray)	T. Osborne,	Medicine Hat
A. W.	(Shack)	Shackelford,	Lethbridge
E.	(Ernie)	H. Starr,	Calgary

All except Tommy Legge were present at an awards dinner held Thursday evening, November third in the Capri Hotel. Retiring President Jack Fleming gave each a citation of his long and meritorious municipal service and then presented him with a framed certificate of his Life Membership.

The Hon. A. J. Hooke now enjoys the distinction of being the first Minister of Municipal Affairs and indeed the first member of a

provincial government to receive this honour from the U.A.M.

As Tommy Legge was unable to be present, Roy Osborn of the 'Hat was given Tommy's certificate to be handed on to him.

Cowboys Next Year and Swans After That:

On behalf of Mayor Jack Leslie, Alderman Mark Tennant extended an invitation from Calgary for the convention to be held in that city in 1967. The invitation was promptly accepted. Mayor George Repka served notice that Grande Prairie would like to host the convention in 1968.

How the 1965 Resolutions Fared:

Mr. Alan MacDonald of Edmonton, a member of the Legislative Committee, reported on the 1965 resolutions. The Provincial Government had implemented 35, eighteen were still under study and thirteen had been refused. A straight municipal majority vote for fluoridation and a provincial plebiscite for Daylight Saving Time were among those implemented or promised for implementation, Mr. MacDonald noted.

EIGHTY RESOLUTIONS THIS YEAR

Notice had been given for 87 resolutions this year. An additional six were made from the floor. Thirteen were withdrawn due to duplication, change of heart, or other reasons, leaving a net of eighty to be resolved. The Town of St. Albert led with seven and a nose behind the largest town in Alberta was a trio of Calgary, Red Deer and Vauxhall with six each. Four of the proposals applied to internal association matters and 59 were approved for forwarding to the provincial government.

Change of Name:

Paramount this year, was a resolution adopting a new constitution and a change of name from Union of Alberta Municipalities to Alberta Urban Municipalities Association. This was approved and the change will be effective when registered in Edmonton under the provisions of The Societies Act.

Air and Water Pollution:

Delegates agreed with the Town of Wainwright that "air pollution" legislation needs amending to take into consideration the special problems of the smaller urban centres. Another resolution asked for provincial research on the subject of air and water pollution and a subsidy to assist with municipal costs.

Uniform Hour for Closing the Polls:

Taber obtained approval of their resolution requesting a change in the Town and Village Act to provide that the hour for the closing of the polls be the same for all cities, towns and villages. They explained that radio broadcasts and other news media located in cities were directing reminders to their local voters that they could vote up to eight o'clock in the evening and this was proving confusing to voters in the smaller centres when they found their polls had closed at 7 p.m.

Extend 25 Year Repayment to 40 Years:

It was resolved that the Provincial Government be urged to permit the borrowing period from the Municipal Financing Corporation to be extended from 25 to 40 years for municipal projects such as cross-river bridges and connecting highways when they will be continuing community assets for fifty years or more.

Tax-Exempt Property:

After deliberating on this subject for a time, the municipal representatives directed their association executive to establish a special committee from the membership to study the problem of all tax-exempt property.

Later, they returned to the subject at the prompting of the Summer Village of Edmonton Beach, and after giving it further thought, decided to also ask the Provincial-Municipal Advisory Committee to conduct a study to determine the impact of property tax exemptions on the different types of municipalities with the request that the result of the study be circulated to U.A.M. members prior to the 1967 Convention.

And then, just to ensure that their concern on this matter was not misunderstood, delegates almost unanimously (there were only two dissenting votes) voted for a resolution suggesting (1) exempted property owners (churches, for example, and all manner of charitable institutions) ought to pay at least their municipal taxes (but not necessarily school taxes); and (2) if the province thinks these groups should be spared taxes, then it ought to pay their taxes for them, by way of grants to the municipalities.

Business Tax or Machinery Tax:

The cities of Red Deer and Grande Prairie, suggested that existing legislation making machinery tax mandatory be amended to allow municipalities the option to impose either the Business Tax or Machinery Tax.

COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR....

CONSOLIDATING THE MUNICIPAL ACTS

....CONTAIN PROVISIONS of TEN EXISTING ACTS

● In November, at the annual conventions of both the Union of Alberta Municipalities in Red Deer and the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties in Calgary, the Hon. A. J. Hooke, Minister of Municipal Affairs, gave delegates a preview of the recommendations recently sent to the provincial government by the two-man committee appointed to review the existing municipal Acts and to report on ways for their consolidation.

Mr. Stan Ross, Q. C. of Edmonton and Mr. William Isbister of the Department of Municipal Affairs are the two members of the committee. The Hon. A. J. Hooke explained that the committee members had started their work in May of this year and in the intervening time had consulted with a number of organizations and individuals, including the Provincial-Municipal Advisory Committee and the Executives of the UAM and the AAMD's and Counties.

Mr. Hooke stressed to his listeners that the recommendations were not yet accepted as government policy and that they were to be under review and subject to revision before being accepted into a draft piece of legislation. His purpose in presenting them to the Association Conventions and promoting their publicity through the press at this time was to ensure their widest possible circulation and study for the benefit of everyone concerned in municipal administration, he said.

● The Committee's recommendations are reprinted here as read to the two conventions by the Hon. A. J. Hooke.

TWO ACTS RECOMMENDED

The Committee studying municipal legislation is of the opinion one Municipal Act can serve the purposes now covered by several existing Municipal Acts and based on this opinion makes the following specific recommendations:

● A SINGLE MUNICIPAL ACT

That a single municipal Act be prepared for consideration at the 1967 Legislative Session and that embodied in it be the necessary provisions now covered by:

- (a) The City Act,
- (b) The Town and Village Act,
- (c) The Municipal District Act,
- (d) The County Act,
- (e) The Controverted Municipal Elections Act,
- (f) The Early Closing Act,
- (g) The Municipal Debentures Act,
- (h) The New Towns Act,
- (i) The Municipal and School Administration Act,
- (j) The Alberta Lords Day Act.

It will be noted that the above list does not include The Planning Act even although many of its provisions are applied by municipalities. The reasoning here is that this Act and in fact a number of others affecting municipalities, is applied and administered to a large extent by provincial departments and we suggest that Acts in this general category should not be included in the Municipal Act which is administered at the local government level.

● AN ASSESSMENT AND TAXATION ACT

That an Assessment and Taxation Act be prepared for legislative consideration in which is embodied the desired provisions of the following Acts:

- (a) The Assessment Act,
- (b) The City Act,
- (c) The Town and Village Act,
- (d) The Municipal District Act,
- (e) The Tax Recovery Act,
- (f) The Local Tax Arrears Consolidation Act,
- (g) The Realities Assessment Act.

* * * *

MUNICIPAL ACT PROVISIONS

The Committee makes the following recommendations with respect to the provisions of The Municipal Act.

Formation, Alteration, etc. of Municipalities

- (1) All new municipalities, both urban and rural, be formed by Order of the Lieutenant Governor in Council, with recommendations as to boundaries and economic feasibility provided from the appropriate planning authority and the Local Authorities Board respectively.

(2) VILLAGES

A hamlet to be formed into a village must have at least 75 occupied buildings and may be incorporated by Order of the Lieutenant Governor in Council upon:

- (a) receipt of a petition of at least 50% of the persons who would be proprietary electors of the village if it were formed, or
- (b) the motion of the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

(3) TOWNS

A town could be formed from a village or new town, when its population had reached 1,000 persons.

(4) CITIES

A city could be formed from a town or new town having reached a population of 10,000 persons.

(5) REDUCTION IN STATUS

A city could be reduced in status to a town and a town reduced in status to a village upon Order in Council for any of the following reasons:

- (a) loss of population,
- (b) failure to elect a council,
- (c) failure to carry out obligations prescribed by the municipal or other Acts,
- (d) if the majority of the electors favor a reduction in status,
- (e) for any other reason deemed adequate by the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

(6) ANNEXATIONS AND WITHDRAWALS

All annexations to and withdrawals of land from all classes of municipalities, both urban and rural, to be handled by the Local Authorities Board.

(7) DISSOLUTION

A village, new town or rural municipality may be dissolved by the Lieutenant Governor in Council for reasons deemed sufficient in the circumstances.

(8) COUNCILS

The Committee recommends the following sized councils:

- (a) City - Seven members including mayor, upon incorporation at the discretion of the council - (this is an existing provision) - mayor to be elected separately.
- (b) Town - Seven members including mayor - mayor to be elected separately, (existing provision).
- (c) Village - Three members - after 700 population, can increase to five without reference to electors - mayor to be selected annually by council.
- (d) County or Municipal District - Such number as the Lieutenant Governor in Council may specify - Reeve to be elected at large - (this is a new suggestion).

(9) VACANCIES ON COUNCIL

(a) Vacancies on councils are not to be filled by special elections if:

- (i) In a city, town or rural municipality, vacancies do not deplete the council by more than 1/3 of its number and if the vacancies occur in the last half of a three year term.
 - (ii) In a village a vacancy occurs in the last six months of the three year term.
- (b) If a vacancy occurs after nomination day and before election day, the nomination meeting for the vacancy is not to be held until the general election results are known.

(10) RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR

The Committee recommends a provision which specifies that a resignation of a mayor or councillor takes effect upon the date it is received by the municipal secretary.

(11) QUALIFICATION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

The Committee recommends changes in qualifications as follows:

- A person must be a Canadian Citizen - (now he can be also a British subject and be eligible)
- A person be entitled to serve on both a municipal council and on a school board included in this municipality.
- The provisions in The Town and Village Act and The Municipal District Act which prohibit a sheriff, bailiff, jailer, etc. from holding municipal offices be removed.
- That there be no property qualifications for a person to run as a candidate for mayor, reeve or councillor, but there must be at least two years permanent residency, plus a \$50.00 deposit from each candidate.

(12) DISQUALIFICATION OF MAYOR, REEVE OR COUNCILLOR

The Committee recommends the following conditions be provided whereby a member of a council will be disqualified by a judge if:

- he is convicted of an indictable offence,
- he has used information gained through his official position to make a personal profit either directly or indirectly. The presiding judge in addition to unseating the councillor, mayor or reeve, may order him to pay to the municipality the personal profit made by him.

The Committee recommends provisions wherein a person convicted under the above be barred from seeking municipal office in Alberta for a minimum period of two full terms.

(13) ELECTIONS

The Committee recommends the following:

- Nominations, election dates and polling hours be uniform for all classes of municipalities, and to accomplish this the following dates and times are suggested.
Nomination Day - 4th Wednesday in October, 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon.
Polling Day - Two weeks following nomination day.
Polls open from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
First Meeting - One week following polling day.
- The term of office of a mayor, reeve and councillors be 3 years with the entire council and mayor or reeve to be elected.
- That the enumeration of non-property owning electors be discontinued and instead a system of registering and swearing in of these electors be used.
- That the reeve of a municipal district or county be elected at large for a three year term.
- That the municipal voting age be lowered from 21 to 19 years of age in line with the provincial voting age.

(14) VOTING ON BY-LAWS

The Committee recommends that money by-laws be adequately advertised and unless a sufficient petition is received, no vote of the proprietary electors be required. The Committee suggests a petition to call for a vote be required to meet the following minimum numbers:

- in an urban municipality having a population of 10,000 or over - 5%
- in an urban municipality having a population over 1,000 but less than 10,000 and in counties and municipal districts - 10%
- in an urban municipality having a population of less than 1,000 - 15%.

The Committee suggests the above percentages apply to any petitions for a vote on any by-law or question.

(15) POWERS OF COUNCIL

The Committee recommends the legislation be drafted to give municipal councils the widest possible authority over matters within their jurisdiction, with the specific details as to the extent and manner in which authority is to be carried out to be spelled out by the council in its by-laws. This will eliminate most of the amendments that in the past have been necessary each year, since if the powers in the Act are broad, a council will have authority to legislate to meet local conditions and changing needs without the necessity of requesting amendments.

(16) MUNICIPAL APPEAL BOARD

If municipal councils are given wide powers as suggested in clause (15), the Committee believes there must be provision

made to adequately protect the rights of the individual. If in the exercise of its powers, a council discriminates against a person or in some manner places an undue hardship upon him, he should have a ready means whereby he can appeal the action of the council and obtain relief from the discrimination or hardship. The Committee believes this can best be accomplished by the establishment of an independent board of knowledgeable persons who would have the necessary power, upon hearing an appeal to direct a council remedy the discrimination or hardship. The Committee believes that a board such as that suggested would provide adequate protection for the property and civil rights of the individual and at the same time would not seriously upset otherwise good municipal by-laws which may be the subject of an appeal.

The Committee also recommends that the role now filled by the Provincial Planning Board on appeals in planning and subdivision applications be assumed by the new board and that in the course of amending The Planning Act, the right of appeal be extended to a person to appeal zoning of his property.

(17) PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD

The Committee suggests there be a provision in the proposed new Act which will give to an individual consumer on a municipal public utility system the right of appeal to the Public Utilities Board against a rate that he believes to be discriminatory or inconsistent with the general rate structure. As most of you will know there is presently provision whereby a person can refer a sewer service charge to the Local Authorities Board and as that agency has the responsibility to approve sewer service charges, this in effect gives the individual the right of appeal. The Committee suggests there should also be an appeal available to an individual on other municipal utility rates - not on the general rate structure of the particular municipal utility - but on a rate directly applicable to him and which he believes to be discriminatory and inconsistent with the general rates for other users. The Committee believes that such appeals, including those now handled by the Local Authorities Board on sewer rates should be the responsibility of the Public Utilities Board.

(18) EXPROPRIATION AND INJURIOUS AFFECTATION

The Committee recommends that in addition to setting compensation for expropriated lands, the Public Utilities Board also fix the compensation for lands not included in, but nevertheless injuriously affected by an expropriation. At present the Public Utilities Board sets the compensation for expropriated lands while the owner whose land is injuriously affected must go to the courts for compensation. The Committee believes the Public Utilities Board is in a better position, having heard an application for compensation on an expropriation, to also set the compensation on lands injuriously affected.

(19) JOINT AGREEMENTS

The Committee suggests there be ample provision for the councils of municipalities to co-operate with the Boards of school districts, hospital districts, and other public bodies in matters of mutual interest. It is hoped that this would encourage local governing bodies to bring about joint recreational and other worthwhile developments that can serve community and regional interests, without the artificial restrictions sometimes imposed by municipal or other local boundaries.

(20) MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES

The Committee recommends that general authority be given to councils to appoint such employees as are required and to designate their duties. It is proposed to set out in the legislation only certain minimum duties with respect to the handling of money, keeping of minutes in the English language, the bonding of employees, to name a few. The Committee suggests councils be authorized to appoint commissioners or a manager without the necessity of obtaining the consent of the electors as is presently required.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

- We propose to bring The Tax Recovery Act into the new Assessment and Taxation Act.
- The Planning Act is not recommended for inclusion and any suggested amendments to it would have to be introduced separately.
- Presently the cities may impose penalties on current taxes throughout the current tax year to a limit of 6%. Other municipalities may add penalties after the end of the tax year on January 1st in the case of towns and villages and on March 1st in the case of counties and municipal districts. It has been suggested and the committee believes the suggestion (To Page 7)

41 EXAMPLES OF VARIANCE

In Existing Municipal Acts

The Committee studying municipal legislation has reported that in the space of a little over one hour, they turned up 41 instances where the corresponding provisions of the three municipal powers varied between city, town, village and rural municipality. In most cases there appeared to the Committee to be no reason why the variance in provisions needed to exist and they say there appears to be also no good reason for them to continue. The differences turned up by the Committee do not cover differences in major powers such as dealing with the purchase of land where the authority of a city council is in this matter vastly greater than those of any other type of council, but cover merely routine matters including election procedures, qualifications of candidates and so on.

Here are some of the 41 examples given by the Committee:

- Incorporation:
City - Section 9, The City Act - Order-in-Council
Town - Section 24, The Town and Village Act - Order-in-Council
Village - Section 12, The Town and Village Act - Ministerial Order
Municipal District - Section 14, The Municipal District Act - Ministerial Order
County - Section 3, The County Act - Order-in-Council
- Annexation and Withdrawals:
City - Section 17, The City Act - Local Authorities Board
Town and Village - Section 18, The Town and Village Act - Local Authorities Board
County and Municipal District - Section 22, The Municipal District Act, Minister
- Terms of Office: (not including 1st or special elections)
City - Section 93, The City Act -
Mayor 2 years
Councillor 2 years
Town - Section 43, 102, The Town and Village Act
Mayor 2 years
Councillor 3 years
Village - Section 101, The Town and Village Act
Mayor Annually selected by council
Councillor 3 years
Municipal District - Section 32, The Municipal District Act
Reeve Annually selected by council
Councillor 3 years
County - Section 9, The County Act and Section 32, The Municipal District Act
Reeve Annually selected by council
Councillor 3 years
- Disqualification of Councillor:
City - Section 97, The City Act - disqualified if convicted of criminal offence by imprisonment of over five years.
Town - Section 108, The Town and Village Act - disqualified, if convicted of criminal offence punishable by imprisonment for two years.
Municipal District and City - The Municipal District Act - same as town.
- Disqualification Through Land Dealings:
City - Section 97, The City Act - sale or lease of land to city by councillor disqualifies him.
Town or Village - Section 109, The Town and Village Act - sale or lease of land to the Town does not disqualify him if it is land council could expropriate.
Municipal District or County - Section 86 - 87, The Municipal District Act - same as Town.
- Remuneration of Councillors:
City - Section 39, The City Act - left to council
Town or Village - Section 60, The Town and Village Act - limited to \$10 per meeting. Mayor in town over 5,000 can have salary (if approved by ratepayers.)
County or Municipal District - Section 55, The Municipal District Act - left to council.
- Residence Qualifications:
The City Act - Section 96, Candidate for office must have at least 12 months residence.
The Town and Village Act - Section 107 - No specific requirement - must reside there at time of nomination.
The Municipal District and County Act - Section 85 - No specific requirement - must reside there at time of nomination.

- Court of Revision Voters List:

City - Section 110, The City Act - Council may appoint a judge, clerk of the Supreme Court or Barrister.
Town and Village - Section 122, The Town and Village Act - council must act as court of revision.
Municipal District and County - Section 120, The Municipal District Act - no court of revision, secretary-treasurer revises.

- Vote of Corporation at Election:

City - No provision.
Town and Village - Section 163, The Town and Village Act - authorized representative may vote.
Municipal District or County - Section 92, The Municipal District Act - authorized representative may vote.

- Votes in Hospitals:

City - Section 174, The City Act - provision to take vote of persons at hospital.
Town or Village - No provision.
Municipal District or County - No provision.

- Advance Poll:

City - Section 173, The City Act - advance poll permitted.
Town or Village - Section 194, The Town and Village Act - advance poll permitted.
Municipal District or County - No provision for advance poll.

- Recounts by Judge:

City - Section 204, The City Act - within 15 days - \$100 deposit by applicant.
Town or Village - Section 195, The Town and Village Act - within 14 days - \$25.00 deposit by applicant.
Municipal District or County - Section 185, The Municipal District Act - within 14 days - \$50.00 deposit by applicant.

- Petition to Force Vote on By-Law:

City - Section 269 - The City Act - 10% proprietary electors.
Town and Village - Section 258, The Town and Village Act - 50% proprietary electors.
Municipal District or County - No similar provision.

UAM ASSEMBLY (from page 3)

Odors from Feed Lots:

A revision on health and planning legislation was urged to provide for alleviating odors from feed lots. The City of Lethbridge said there are proven methods for alleviating the odors.

Weed Control:

It was decided the U.A.M. would undertake a special study of weed control in urban areas with a view to recommending effective changes in legislation.

Annual Meetings:

Delegates defeated a resolution that would have suggested an annual meeting of ratepayers only be held if a written petition of a number of electors was submitted with a demand for a meeting.

The City Act and Consolidation:

After the delegates had agreed with an Edmonton proposal that in the case of cities, any draft consolidation of the municipal Acts should be circulated to all the cities for their study over a period extending at least twelve months, they later gave consideration to and approved a Calgary resolution making the same request without any time specified for delay but asking that the Executive Council consider recommendations from the cities before striking a final draft. In the same vein, another resolution asks the provincial government to introduce proposed amendments of municipal Acts during the first half of a sitting of the Legislature in order to provide time for the U.A.M. to meet with its members in the Provincial-Municipal Advisory Committee to review any proposed changes before the second reading, or in lieu of this procedure whenever possible, to review proposed changes before they are presented for first reading.

Advertising on Election Day:

Edmonton suggested and it was unanimously agreed, that no candidate or group shall advertise by the press, radio, television or by posting or distributing handbills or cards at any public place or voting place within a City on Election Day.

Daylight Saving Time:

The government was asked to make it mandatory that Daylight-Saving Time be instituted in Alberta for the same period as in the adjoining provinces, commencing in the spring of 1967.

Property Qualification:

Delegates really came to life and engaged in energetic debate over a Calgary resolution that property

(to next page)

qualification be deleted for a candidate and that a requirement for a deposit be substituted. The proposal was defeated.

Greenhouses:

Redcliff received support of delegates when they voted to ask that The Assessment Act be amended to provide that a town may assess greenhouses and farm improvements within the limits of the town. The Alberta Assessment Appeal Board had recently decided on an Appeal in Redcliff that the operator of a greenhouse was not liable to assessment for his building or for business tax. It was held that a greenhouse was a farm building, and secondly that a business assessment could not be made against a farm which includes a greenhouse, said the resolution. As a result, Redcliff had lost improvement and business assessments of \$106,520.00.

Realign Administrative Boundaries:

A Royal Commission seemed to be in the minds of some delegates when they joined in approving Drayton Valley's resolution calling for an investigation into a realignment of Municipal, School District, Health Unit, and County Boundaries, so as to "ensure that unrealistic and obsolete boundaries be adjusted with a view to creating in each case administrative units which conform to not only modern trading areas but also with a scale of operations big enough to attract first rate people to municipal service, both as councillors and officials; and with financial resources sufficient to support the full range of municipal services."

It was argued that the boundaries of Municipalities, Health Units, School Districts, and Counties as they exist in Alberta today are, in many cases those same boundaries drawn up many years ago, under very different economic, social and communication conditions. And it was also said "the boundaries of Municipalities, Health Units, School Districts and Counties as they presently exist conform to obsolete economic, social and communication standards, very often ending at a river or other formerly insurmountable obstacle since removed or overcome."

Homeowner's Tax Discount:

On this subject, the Town of Grand Centre proposed and the

convention resolved that: "whereas the Homeowner Tax Discount Act does not provide for the payment of Local Improvement Taxes as well as property taxes before the Discount is allowed and, whereas the disbursement of the Discount created a great deal of extra work for local government offices and this mainly because local improvement taxes are not included in the Act, the provincial government should be asked to amend the Act as follows:

"That all taxes, land, improvements and local improvements be paid in full before the Homeowner Tax Discount application be accepted; and that the taxpayer send the application to the Department of Municipal Affairs after having it approved by the Municipal Secretary-Treasurer and that the Department of Municipal Affairs issue a cheque directly to the taxpayer on receipt of the application".

Urban and Rural Recreation:

Several speakers told how the provision of recreational facilities and programs is placing an ever increasing burden on urban municipalities. They said the facilities are used by rural as well as urban residents and argued that the burden should be shared by rural taxpayers. The convention then resolved that the U.A.M. executive appoint a committee to discuss with the rural association "the problem of providing recreational facilities and programs for the people of urban and adjacent rural areas on an equitable basis."

CONSOLIDATING THE MUNICIPAL ACTS

(From Page 5)

has considerable merit, that a further provision be added wherein a taxpayer can by agreement elect to pay his taxes on a monthly basis and in so doing he would not be eligible for any discounts the municipality has in effect nor would he be liable to penalties during the current tax year, assuming always that his agreement is kept in good standing. This suggestion means that the municipality would receive perhaps considerable tax monies in the early months of the year when revenues are as a rule rather lean and it does give the many persons who are working on a close budget the opportunity of budgeting their tax payments without having to bear the additional penalties which otherwise may be imposed.

NINTH WINTER WORKS PROGRAM NOW UNDERWAY

The Government of Alberta is again co-operating with the Government of Canada in sponsoring the ninth Municipal Winter Works Incentive Program.

The terms and conditions of the program are substantially the same as those of the previous program. Incentive payments apply to the period November 1, 1966 to April 30, 1967.

The Federal and Provincial contributions are respectively 50 and 25 percent of the direct payroll costs of each approved project.

The Federal contribution amounts to 60 percent of the direct payroll costs in approved projects undertaken by municipalities in areas of Alberta designated under the criteria of high and chronic unemployment and low family incomes under the Designated Area Program of the Department of Industry of the Government of Canada. (see box).

Mr. W. D. Isbister, Assistant Chief Municipal Inspector, who administers the program on behalf of the province has emphasized that

the terms of the Program have been tightened this year to ensure that the employment created under the program will benefit those most in need in the winter months. All persons employed must be unemployed at the time they are hired or they must be persons who would be unemployed in the absence of the special winter works project for which they are hired. "The program is not designed to provide casual employment opportunities to those normally engaged in full-time occupations, e.g. students" he said "but is intended to assist those who need work for sustenance of themselves and their families, where applicable".

APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING

The Program's Sponsors ask employers to consider the training of workers in the various trades and skills that may be associated with the winter work projects. Information about apprenticeship programs, courses for journeymen and trade certificates may be obtained from the Apprenticeship Board Offices in Lethbridge, Calgary, Edmonton and Grande Prairie.

MUNICIPALITIES AND I.D.'S WITHIN DESIGNATED AREAS ELIGIBLE FOR 60% WINTER WORKS INCENTIVE PAYMENT 1966-67

TOWNS	COUNTIES		IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS
Athabasca	Thorhild No. 7	Cowley	I. D. 8
Barrhead	Barrhead No. 11	Fort Assiniboine	I. D. 10
Blairmore	Athabasca No. 12	Frank	I. D. 27
Bonnyville	Smoky Lake No. 13	Glendon	I. D. 85
Cold Lake	St. Paul No. 19	Island Lake (S.V.)	I. D. 101
Coleman	Lac Ste. Anne No. 28	Onoway	I. D. 102
Elk Point		Radway	I. D. 107
Fort McMurray	<u>VILLAGES</u>	Sandy Beach (S.V.)	I. D. 108
Grand Centre	Alberta Beach (S.V.)	Sangudo	I. D. 121
Lac La Biche	Bellevue	Sunset Point	I. D. 122
Mayerthorpe	Bellis	Thorhild	I. D. 143
Red Water	Bonnyville Beach (S.V.)	Vilna	<u>MUNICIPAL DISTRICTS</u>
Smoky Lake	Boyle	Warspite	Bonnyville No. 87
St. Paul	Castle Island (S.V.)	Waskatenau	Westlock No. 92
Westlock	Clyde		Pincher Creek No. 9 (West side to Meridian)

EXECUTIVES FOR 1967

- ALBERTA URBAN MUNICIPALITIES ASSOCIATION
 - Hon. President: Town Manager, Jack Fleming, Hinton
 - President: Alderman Mark Tennant, Calgary
 - 1st Vice-President: Mayor George Repka, Grande Prairie
 - 2nd Vice-President: Mayor Dennis Burt, Cardston
 - Honorary Secretary: Commissioner Malcolm Twiddle, Edmonton
 - Executive Secretary: Ernest Newman, Edmonton
 - Executive:
 - Mayor V. M. Dantzer, Edmonton
 - Alderman Mrs. M. Sparling, Camrose
 - Mayor F. Sherring, Lethbridge
 - Mayor E. Barrett, Red Deer
 - Secretary-Trea. L. Wheatling, St. Albert
 - Mayor W. Jackson, Lacombe
 - Mayor W. Bell, Coronation
 - Councillor H. Urquhart, Peace River
 - Mayor A. Velker, Rockyford
- Representatives on the Provincial-Municipal Advisory Committee
 - Regular: Mayor Frank Sherring, Lethbridge
 - Secretary-Treasurer James Clark, Fort Saskatchewan
 - Alternate: Mayor Wes Jackson, Lacombe
- Representatives on the Alberta Housing and Urban Renewal Committee
 - Regular: Alderman David Russell, Calgary
 - Secretary-Manager Rod Greig, Edson
 - Alternate: Alderman Mrs. Mona Sparling, Camrose
- ALBERTA ASSOCIATION OF SUMMER VILLAGES
 - President: Mayor C. H. Clark, Seba Beach
 - Vice-President: Hon. Member F. Misanikoff, Ma-Me-O Beach
 - Executive Director: C. D. Denney, Itaska Beach
 - Directors: Hon. Member J. Colney, Alberta Beach
 - Secretary-Trea. Mrs. A. Christiansen, Alberta Beach
 - Secretary-Treasurer H. G. Turner, Seba Beach
 - Mayor E. F. Marin, Yellowstone
 - Secretary-Treasurer H. L. Irving, Silver Beach
 - Mayor C. Kosowan, Golden Days
 - Secretary-Treasurer O. S. Taylor, Island Lake
 - Secretary-Treasurer W. D. Tate, Ross Haven

BITS AND PIECES

How Many People Make a Mile?

In Alberta, we plan for one mile of freeway for every 10 to 30,000 people. (Hon. Gordon Taylor - U. A. M. Convention, November 3, 1966).

* * * *

And It Came To Pass That The Lowest Was The Highest

Increases in expenditures in the public sector of the three levels of government in Canada have been as follows since 1947:

Federal	-	Over 3 times
Provincial	-	Over 5 times
Municipal	-	Over 6 times

(Professor Walter Gainer of U. of A. speaking at U. A. M. Convention, Red Deer, November 3rd, 1966).

* * * *

A Red Hatter

Jack Fleming of Hinton is now a Red Hatter. Mayor Barrett of Red Deer presented him with the gala headpiece in a ceremony at the U. A. M. Convention on Friday, November 4, 1966.

* * * *

DISCS REPLACE METERS ALONG ENGLISH CURBS

In Cheltenham, England, motorists help write their own parking tickets by using a paper wheel disc.

When a driver parks his car, he sets his disc at the time he arrived at the parking place. A figure opposite the disc arrival time indicates the time he must leave. The disc is then displayed in the front window of the car. Parking is limited to a maximum of 1 to 1 1/2 hours.

Since motorists have started using the discs, officials report a higher turnover of parking spaces, with 40 minutes the average parking time.

* * * *

ALBERTA PLANNING CONFERENCE
December 12 and 13, 1966

Alberta's municipal and provincial planners will be holding their Annual Planning Conference in CALGARY at the HOLIDAY INN on December 12 and 13, 1966.

* * * *


Red Deer is sticking an adhesive tread-mat material with a non-slip surface onto the CITY HALL steps, to cut down on the slippery nature of the steps during the winter.

* * * *

SECRETARY'S
CALENDAR

DECEMBER

	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31			



Municipal District Act

5th - Secretary-treasurer shall prepare a statement of monies received and their disposition, submit to council at next meeting and enter a copy in the minutes. Sec. 61(v).

Dec. 1 - Final installment of the Hospitalization Benefits Plan requisition due. Sec. 50. Alberta Hospitals Act.

Dec. 3 - Election day is the fourth Saturday following nomination day. Sec. 121. Returning officer shall sum up results of vote on day and place appointed. Sec. 174. Returning officer shall deliver election materials to the secretary-treasurer. Sec. 178. Secretary-treasurer shall retain for two months then destroy certain election material. Sec. 179, 182 and 183.

Recount must be requested within 14 days after ballot papers are received by the secretary-treasurer. Sec. 184.

Dec. 15 - Final quarterly installment of school district or division requisition due. Sec. 338.

Dec. 31 - Charges for destruction of pests not paid before this date shall be added to the taxes on land. Sec. 278.

Dec. 31 - Prior to this date council shall provide for holding an annual meeting on the first Saturday in March. Sec. 96(6).

Note: First or statutory meeting to be held on January 3rd. Sec. 39.

Town and Village Act

15th - Secretary-treasurer shall prepare a statement of monies received and their disposition, submit to council at next meeting and enter a copy in the minutes. Sec. 67(r).

Dec. 1 - Final installment of Hospitalization Benefits Plan requisition due. Sec. 50. Alberta Hospitals Act.

Dec. 15 - Final quarterly installment of school district or division requisition due. Sec. 355.

Dec. 31 - Financial year ends. Sec. 77.

Note: Census information in regard to the Municipalities Assessment Act Grant must be compiled by January 25th and submitted by January 31.

Assessment Act, 1960

Jan. 1 - In the case of an annual assessment, notice of preparation of roll shall be posted and published not later than Jan. 1st in the year following the year in which the assessments were made. Sec. 30.


Jan. 1 - Secretary-treasurer shall mail assessment slips not later than Jan. 1st in the year following the year in which the assessments were made. Sec. 28.

Tax Recovery Act

Dec. 31 - Taxes are deemed to be in arrears if unpaid after this date, unless a later date is lawfully fixed for payment. Sec. 3(9) and 4(4).
o E. J. B.

THIS MONTH

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